

## Message Text

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

PAGE 01 MEXICO 02093 190133Z

ACTION ARA-10

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-04 H-01 INR-07 L-03

NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15 USIA-06 AID-05

TRSE-00 OMB-01 EB-08 COME-00 /070 W

-----190825 105156/11

R 190040Z FEB 77

FM AMEMBASSY MEXICO

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 0438

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE MEXICO 2093

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: OVIP, MX

SUBJ: JLP'S CONGRESSIONAL SPEECH: AN INTERPRETATION

1. SINCE MEXICAN ORATORICAL STYLE IS SO DIFFERENT FROM AMERICAN, EMBASSY US SUBMITTING THE FOLLOWING INTERPRETIVE ANALYSIS FOR WASHINGTON END USERS NOT INTIMATELY ACQUAINTED WITH MEXICO AND RECENT US-MEXICAN RELATIONS.

2. BACKGROUND AND GENERAL COMMENT:

A. ALTHOUGH JLP'S ACTUAL AUDIENCE WAS THE ASSEMBLED US CONGRESS, BACKGROUND TO VISIT, SPEECH CONTENT, AND SPECIFIC COMMENTS MADE TO DEPT OFFICIALS ALL INDICATE JLP WAS AWARE THAT ANALYSIS OF SPEECH WOULD BE FARE MORE INTENSE IN MEXICO THAN IN CONGRESS. IN THIS SENSE, SPEECH WAS INTENDED TO REASSURE MEXICAN POLITICAL LEFT THAT HE HAD NOT "COME TO RECEIVE INSTRUCTIONS FROM HEADQUARTERS". THIS ACCOUNTS FOR OCCASIONAL ADMONITIONS AND EXHORTATIONS THAT BORDERED ON PREACHING. WHILE THIS EMPHASIS ON CONVEYING "HOME TRUTHS" WOULD BE NECESSARY FOR ANY MEXICAN LEADER VISITING US, IT WAS PARTICULARLY IMPORTANT THAT JLP ESTABLISH A RECORD BECAUSE OF THE ABUNDANT US NEWS COMMENTARY DURING LAST FEW MONTHS DESCRIBING JLP ADMINISTRATION'S "TURN TO THE RIGHT", "DISAVOWAL OF LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

PAGE 02 MEXICO 02093 190133Z

THIRD WORLD POLITICS", "DESIRE FOR GOOD RELATIONS WITH US", ETC. THE MORE SUCH OBSERVATIONS ARE PUBLICLY MADE, THE MORE DIFFICULT IT IS FOR JLP DOMESTICALLY.

B. NONETHELESS, ONLY YARDSTICK AGAINST WHICH THIS ASPECT OF SPEECH CAN BE MEASURED IS THE JUNE 15, 1972 ECHEVERRIA SPEECH ON SIMILAR OCCASION. ECHEVERRIA'S

TONE THEN WAS OFTEN SARCASTIC AND BITING. IN CONTRAST WE THINK JLP MADE EFFORT TO AVOID SPECIFIC IRRITANTS. HIS ALLUSION TO WHAT MEXICANS HAVE CALLED THE "US PRESS CAMPAIGN AGAINST MEXICO" WAS SO OBLIQUE (IT FOLLOWS DIRECTLY ON MENTION OF FDR GOOD NEIGHBOR POLICY) WE DOUBT ANYONE REALIZED WHAT HE WAS TALKING ABOUT.

3. GENERAL CONTENT:

A. IN CONTRAST TO ECHEVERRIA'S 1972 SPEECH, WHICH DEMANDED SOLUTIONS TO SPECIFIC PROBLEMS, JLP STUCK TO GENERALITIES AND PHILOSOPHICAL FORMULATIONS.

B. JLP BUILT HIS ADDRESS LOOSELY AROUND THEMES OF REQUEST "UNDERSTANDING, EQUILIBRIUM, AND RESPECT." BY UNDERSTANDING, JLP WANTS US APPRECIATION THAT MEXICAN POLITICAL SYSTEM, VALUES, AND GOALS ARE DIFFERENT FROM US ONES, AND FOR THIS REASON HE CHOSE TO EMPHASIZE THE MEXICAN REVOLUTIONARY TRADITION. BY EQUILIBRIUM, JLP REALLY MEANS "SPECIAL CONSIDERATION" IN ECONOMIC AND FINANCIAL MATTERS. WE BELIEVE THAT "EQUILIBRIUM" WAS HIS SHORTHAND TERM COVERING HIS AND MEXICO'S INTENSE INTEREST AND CONCERN OVER THE FACT THAT THE MEXICAN BALANCE OF TRADE WITH THE US IS UNFAVORABLE TO MEXICO. MEXICO HAS TO SOLVE ITS OWN PROBLEMS, HE SAID, BUT IT IS A US RESPONSIBILITY "TO EXAMINE THOSE DECISIONS THAT CAN AFFECT OR INTERFERE WITH OUR DEVELOPMENT EFFORTS". BY RESPECT, JLP WANTS US SYMPATHY FOR SITUATION OF MEXICO AS PART OF THIRD WORLD.

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

PAGE 03 MEXICO 02093 190133Z

4. MEXICO AS PART OF THE THIRD WORLD. BY CONTRAST TO WHAT WE BELIEVE PRESIDENT ECHEVERRIA MIGHT HAVE SAID HAD HE BEEN ON THE PODIUM, LOPEZ PORTILLO'S REFERENCES TO MEXICO AS A DEVELOPING COUNTRY AND A MEMBER OF THE THIRD WORLD GROUP WERE MILD IN TONE AND NOT EXTENSIVE IN TERMS OF OVERALL EMPHASIS, ALTHOUGH WE BELIEVE THAT MEXICO WILL CONTINUE TO SUPPORT THIRD WORLD ATTITUDES WITH REGARD TO TRADE, DISARMAMENT, AND LOS, TO MENTION SOME FIELDS. HE MADE THE POINT THAT WHAT WAS LEFT OF THE BRETTON WOODS ARRANGEMENTS DID NOT PROVIDE SOLUTIONS FOR THE COUNTRIES IN PROCESS OF DEVELOPMENT, AND HE REFERRED IN PASSING TO THE PROBLEMS CREATED BY THE TECHNOLOGICAL GAP AND THE OPERATION OF MULTINATIONAL CORPORATIONS, BUT THEN PROCEEDED TO SOFTEN THE IMPLICIT CRITICISMS BY SAYING THAT INSTEAD OF TRYING TO IDENTIFY THE "GUILTY OR THE RESPONSIBLE", HE WOULD ADVISE THE DC'S AND THE LDC'S TO SEEK A SOLUTION ACCEPTABLE TO BOTH. HE SAID THE

SOLUTIONS DEPENDED ON INTERNATIONAL ACTION: "SOME BILATERAL, OTHERS MULTILATERAL, SOME SPECIFIC, OTHERS GENERAL".

5. HIS UNDERSTANDING OF THE UNITED STATES. AS WE HAVE SAID ABOVE, WE BELIEVE THAT JLP WAS TALKING TO TWO AUDIENCES: THE CONGRESS AND THE AMERICAN PEOPLE, AND THE AUDIENCE AT HOME IN MEXICO AND IN THE THIRD WORLD, WHICH WOULD BE LOOKING FOR INDICATIONS THAT HE HAD "SOLD OUT" TO THE UNITED STATES. HE WANTED TO MAKE SURE THAT THE LATTER AUDIENCE DID NOT FIND WHAT IT WAS LOOKING FOR. WE BELIEVE THAT HE WENT OUT OF HIS WAY TO ESTABLISH TO HIS AMERICAN AUDIENCE THAT HE KNOWS AND RESPECTS THE AMERICAN POLITICAL TRADITION, AND THAT THIS FACT EXPLAINS HIS REFERENCE TO HIS OWN STUDY OF THE AMERICAN REVOLUTIONS AND THE DEVELOPMENT OF THE AMERICAN CONSTITUTION. IT ALSO EXPLAINS HIS TRIBUTES LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

PAGE 04 MEXICO 02093 190133Z

TO LINCOLN, FDR'S GOOD NEIGHBOR POLICY, AND THE COMPLIMENTARY REFERENCES TO AMBASSADOR JOSEPHUS DANIELS.

6. MEXICAN INTEREST IN A SPECIAL RELATIONSHIP. TAKING DEPARTURE FROM HIS COMMENTS ON THE ROOSEVELT GOOD NEIGHBOR POLICY, LOPEZ PORTILLO DISCUSSED THE DEVELOPMENT OF A SPECIAL RELATIONSHIP WITH THE UNITED STATES, THE NEED FOR WHICH HE TIED TO OUR COMMON BORDER AND OUR ECONOMIC AND FINANCIAL TIES. HE DESCRIBED THE SERIES OF FACTORS TRANSFORMING THE TRADITIONAL RELATIONS BETWEEN THE COUNTRIES AS "FINANCE, TRADE, CURRENCY, FOREIGN INVESTMENT, TOURISM, MIGRANT LABOR, DRUG TRAFFIC, PRISONERS, AND THIRD WORLD RELATIONS". ALTHOUGH HE DID NOT EMPHASIZE THE POINT IN HIS SPEECH TO THE CONGRESS, LOPEZ PORTILLO MADE CLEAR DURING HIS WASHINGTON CONVERSATIONS AND IN OTHER PUBLIC STATEMENTS DURING THE VISITS THAT THERE WERE LINKAGES BETWEEN THESE ELEMENTS OF OUR RELATIONSHIP, AND THAT ON ONE OF THEM COULD BE TREATED OR SOLVED IN A VACUUM. WE BELIEVE THAT THIS IS WHAT HE MEANT BY SAYING THAT MEXICAN-US RELATIONS HAD TO BE RELATED "GLOBALLY"--THAT IS, AS A PACKAGE RATHER THAN PIECEMEAL.  
JOVA

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

NNN



## Message Attributes

**Automatic Decaptioning:** X  
**Capture Date:** 01-Jan-1994 12:00:00 am  
**Channel Indicators:** n/a  
**Current Classification:** UNCLASSIFIED  
**Concepts:** CHIEF OF STATE VISITS, SPEECHES, FOREIGN POLICY POSITION  
**Control Number:** n/a  
**Copy:** SINGLE  
**Sent Date:** 19-Feb-1977 12:00:00 am  
**Decaption Date:** 01-Jan-1960 12:00:00 am  
**Decaption Note:**  
**Disposition Action:** RELEASED  
**Disposition Approved on Date:**  
**Disposition Case Number:** n/a  
**Disposition Comment:** 25 YEAR REVIEW  
**Disposition Date:** 22 May 2009  
**Disposition Event:**  
**Disposition History:** n/a  
**Disposition Reason:**  
**Disposition Remarks:**  
**Document Number:** 1977MEXICO02093  
**Document Source:** CORE  
**Document Unique ID:** 00  
**Drafter:** n/a  
**Enclosure:** n/a  
**Executive Order:** N/A  
**Errors:** N/A  
**Expiration:**  
**Film Number:** D770059-1061  
**Format:** TEL  
**From:** MEXICO  
**Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Image Path:**  
**ISecure:** 1  
**Legacy Key:** link1977/newtext/t19770225/aaaaavmk.tel  
**Line Count:** 162  
**Litigation Code IDs:**  
**Litigation Codes:**  
**Litigation History:**  
**Locator:** TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM  
**Message ID:** 135ef2c3-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc  
**Office:** ACTION ARA  
**Original Classification:** LIMITED OFFICIAL USE  
**Original Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Original Previous Classification:** n/a  
**Original Previous Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Page Count:** 3  
**Previous Channel Indicators:** n/a  
**Previous Classification:** LIMITED OFFICIAL USE  
**Previous Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Reference:** n/a  
**Retention:** 0  
**Review Action:** RELEASED, APPROVED  
**Review Content Flags:**  
**Review Date:** 29-Mar-2005 12:00:00 am  
**Review Event:**  
**Review Exemptions:** n/a  
**Review Media Identifier:**  
**Review Release Date:** n/a  
**Review Release Event:** n/a  
**Review Transfer Date:**  
**Review Withdrawn Fields:** n/a  
**SAS ID:** 3274906  
**Secure:** OPEN  
**Status:** NATIVE  
**Subject:** JLPV'S CONGRESSIONAL SPEECH: AN INTERPRETATION  
**TAGS:** OVIP, MX, (LOPEZ PORTILLO, JOSE)  
**To:** STATE  
**Type:** TE  
**vdkgvwkey:** odbc://SAS/SAS.dbo.SAS\_Docs/135ef2c3-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc  
**Review Markings:**  
Margaret P. Grafeld  
Declassified/Released  
US Department of State  
EO Systematic Review  
22 May 2009  
**Markings:** Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 22 May 2009